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GROSS MARGARET A
77 SEOUL 9479

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 09479 0909037
ACTION EA-12
INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 JUSE-00 IO-13 072 W
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/HR
REVIEWED BY EARBlack DATE 2/12/80

R 090840Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7478
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN, PFOR, KS, US
SUBJECT: PRESS COVERAGE OF PAK TONG-SON CASE
REF: A. SEOUL 9442; B. SEOUL 9402

1. ON NOVEMBER 9, MORNING PRESS COVERAGE OF PAK TONG-SON CASE IN GENERAL FOLLOWED THRUST AND CONTENT OF NOVEMBER 8 STORIES. (REF. A) INDEPENDENT CHOSUN ILBO NOTED THAT USG POSITION WAS STILL THAT IT WISHED TO CONFIRM DIRECTLY AT U.S. EMBASSY CHANCERY. PAK'S INTENTIONS REGARDING HIS LEAVING THE COUNTRY AND TO QUESTION PAK IN SEOUL IF HE CONTINUES TO REFUSE TO LEAVE. ARTICLE THEN QUOTED "SOURCE" WHO SAID "WHILE (ROKG) ADVOCATES STEP BY STEP APPROACH (TO PROBLEM), U.S. SIDE IS INSISTING ON A PACKAGE DEAL FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF THE CASE".

2. INDEPENDENT, OPPOSITION TONGA ILBO CARRIED STORY THAT PRESS TRIED TO QUESTION AMERICAN AFFAIRS BUREAU DIRECTOR PAK SANG-YONG AFTER NOVEMBER 8 SESSION BETWEEN FONMIN AND AMERICAN AMBASSADOR BUT PAK HAS DECLINED TO ELABORATE ON MEETING. DIRECTOR PAK WAS QUOTED AS SAYING, HOWEVER, "THAT U.S. SIDE HAS EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER TOO

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MANYDOMESTIC REPORTS ON THE PAK TONG-SON NEGOTIATIONS IN PROGRESS. OUR SIDE REPLIED THAT WHAT IS BEING REPORTED DOES NOT COME FROM ANY MOFA SOURCE."

3. AFTERNOON PRESS ON NOVEMBER 9 HAD MINIMAL REFERENCE TO PAK TONG-SON CASE.

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